## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EUR-25** 

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 H-03 PA-03 CU-04 SCI-06 NSC-10

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 AGR-20

EB-11 COME-00 OPR-02 /127 R

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R 262055Z JUL 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

**UNCLAS STATE 147166** 

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, EAGR, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: TOBACCO

- 1. US TOBACCO OFFICIALS PLEASED THAT MINISTRY OF FOOD INDUSTRY OF USSR HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE US DELEGATION OF 12 TOBACCO SPECIALISTS.
- 2. DUE TO SCHEDULE OF SOME KEY TOBACCO OFFICIALS ON DELEGATION, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO SPEND FULL 14 DAYS IN USSR. CONSEQUENTLY, USDEL PROPOSES ARRIVE IN MOSCOW ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AND DEPART MOSCOW ON SEPTEMBER 19.
- 3. DUE TO LARGE SIZE OF DELEGATION, SHORTNESS OF VISIT AND DIVERSE INTERESTS OF THE GROUP, WE PROPOSE THAT, AFTER JOINT DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW UPON ARRIVAL, USDEL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS OF SIX OFFICIALS EACH. FIRST GROUP WOULD CONSIST OF OFFICIALS INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN PROCESSING, RELATED RESEARCH, MARKETING AND MANUFACTURING. SECOND GROUP WOULD BE COMPOSED OF FARM LEADERS INTERESTED IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PRODUCTION, CURING, HARVESTING, CULTIVATION, FERMENTATION,

AND RELATED RESEARCH. EACH GROUP WOULD HAVE SEPARATE PROGRAM TAILORED TO MEET ITS SPECIFIC INTERESTS. USDA IS PLEASED WITH TENTATIVE PROGRAM PROPOSED BY USSR AND BELIEVES IT COULD FORM BASIS FOR ITINERARY (WITH 3 DAYS DELETED) PARTICULARLY FOR GROUP II. SOME ADDITIONAL MODIFICATION OF THAT ITINERARY WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR

THOSE SPECIALISTS (GROUP I) WITH INTEREST IN MANUFACTURING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND MARKETING. AFTER FOLLOWING SEPARATE PROGRAMS IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR WHOLE USDEL TO MEET AS A GROUP WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. USDA WOULD APPRECIATE SOVIET SUGGESTIONS ON HOW BEST TO MODIFY TENTATIVE ITINERARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH USDA PROPOSAL.

- 4. US SIDE WOULD OF COURSE BE WILLING ON RECIPROCAL BASIS TO SPONSOR SPLIT PROGRAM FOR VISIT OF SOVIET TOBACCO SPECIALISTS TO US. IN THIS REGARD US WOULD WELCOME RETURN SOVIET DELEGATION LATER THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR. DETAILS CAN BE DISCUSSED DURING USDEL VISIT.
- 5. INFORMATION ON USDEL COMPOSITION WILL BE FORWARDED ASAP. SOVIETS SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT US AG ATTACHE STAN BROWN WILL BE NAMED AS MEMBER OF 12-MAN USDEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION I PARAGRAPH 2C OF THE 1972-1973 EXCHANGES AGREEMENT.
- 6. SOVIETS SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT FINANCING OF TRIP WILL BE ON A SENDING SIDE PAYS BASIS IN ACCORDANCE SECTION I PARA 2D OF THAT SAME AGREEMENT. USDA REQUESTS THAT TWO INTERPRETERS BE PROVIDED FOR USDEL, AND IS OF COURSE PREPARED TO FURNISH RETURN SOVIET VISITORS WITH INTERPRETERS ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS. ROGERS

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